AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) A method of communicating a serialized object in a computer network, comprising:

defining first base-classes, wherein each base-class of said first base-classes includes an additional-properties portion for extensibility of the respective base-class;

defining a second class that inherits from one of said first base-classes, wherein said defining a second class includes defining an additional-property element within said additional-properties portion of said one of said first base-classes, wherein said additional-property element comprises a name-value pair;

instantiating a first object of said second class;

serializing said first object;

communicating said serialized first object between first and second systems within said computer network; and

creating a second object on said second system as an instance of said one of said first base-classes, wherein said creating omits processing said additional-property element of said additional-properties portion within said serialized first object.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21 wherein a catalog of first base-classes is accessible by said first and second systems.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21 wherein said second class is defined on said first system and is not defined on said second system.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21 wherein said second class comprises a type identifier.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24 wherein said creating a second object comprises:

identifying said one of said first base-classes using said type identifier.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently Amended) A computer system, comprising:

a first system including first base-class definitions, wherein each base-class definition comprises an additional-properties portion for extensibility of the respective base-class definition; and

a second system including said first base-class definitions and a second class definition that inherits from one of said first base-class definitions and that comprises an additional-property element within said additional-properties portion, wherein said additional-property element comprises a name-value pair;

wherein said second system communicates serializations of objects instantiated according to said second class definition to said first system and said first system creates objects as instances of said one of said first base-class definitions by omitting processing of said additional-property element of said additional-properties portion within said serializations.

28. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 27 wherein said second class definition is not defined on said first system.

29. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 27 wherein said second class definition comprises a type identifier.

30. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 29 wherein said first system identifies said one of said first base-class definitions by analyzing said type identifier.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

serializing a first object of a first class on a first system, said first class inheriting from a second class that comprises an additional-properties portion, said first class defining an additional-property element within said additional-properties portion, wherein said additional-property comprises a name-value pair;

communicating said serialized first object to a second system that does not comprise a definition of said first class; and

creating a second object on said second system using said serialized first object, said second object being an instance of said second class, said creating omitting processing of said addition property element within said serialized first object.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32 wherein said first class comprises a type identifier.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33 wherein said creating comprises:

identifying said second class using said type identifier.

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32 wherein said first system is a client system and said second system is a server system.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32 further comprising:

accessing a definition of said second class from a class definition catalog.